

Using biomass for climate change mitigation and oil use reduction

L. Gustavsson*, J. Holmberg, V. Dornburg, R. Sathre, T. Eggers, K. Mahapatra, G. Marland

Ecotechnology, Mid Sweden University, 83125 Östersund, Sweden

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Abstract

In this paper, we examine how an increased use of biomass could efficiently meet Swedish energy policy goals of reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and oil use. In particular, we examine the trade-offs inherent when biomass use is intended to pursue multiple objectives. We set up four scenarios in which up to 400 PJ/year of additional biomass is prioritised to reduce CO₂ emissions, reduce oil use, simultaneously reduce both CO₂ emission and oil use, or to produce ethanol to replace gasoline. Technologies analysed for using the biomass include the production of electricity, heat, and transport fuels, and also as construction materials and other products. We find that optimising biomass use for a single objective (either CO₂ emission reduction or oil use reduction) results in high fulfilment of that single objective (17.4 Tg C/year and 350 PJ oil/year, respectively), at a monetary cost of 130–330 million €/year, but with low fulfilment of the other objective. A careful selection of biomass uses for combined benefits results in reductions of 12.6 Tg C/year and 230 PJ oil/year (72% and 67%, respectively, of the reductions achieved in the scenarios with single objectives), with a monetary benefit of 45 million €/year. Prioritising for ethanol production gives the lowest CO₂ emissions reduction, intermediate oil use reduction, and the highest monetary cost.

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1. Introduction

With increasing concern about energy security, energy cost, and the impact of energy systems on the global climate, many countries have adopted energy policies that aim to confront these issues. Sweden's national energy policy strives to create a sustainable energy system, with a long-term vision for Sweden to obtain all of its energy supply from renewable sources (Swedish Government, 2007). Elements of this policy include ensuring a reliable energy supply, increasing the efficiency of energy use, reducing the environmental impacts of energy use, breaking dependence on oil, and encouraging cost-effectiveness in energy supply and use. Recently, the Swedish government has set a target of reducing, by the year 2020, the use of oil in road transport by 40–50%, in industry by 25–40%, and in building heating by 100% (Commission on Oil Independence, 2006). The European

Union (EU) also explicitly discusses energy security as a main concern of its energy policy and aims to address this concern by reducing energy demand, diversifying the sources of energy supply, and increasing reliance on internal sources of supply (EC, 2000). The EU has developed a strategy to increase the use of renewable energy resources (EC, 1997), including the use of biofuels in the transport sector (EU, 2003) and a biomass action plan (EC, 2005).

Biofuels play a significant role in the Swedish energy policy (Swedish Government, 2007), yet biomass produced in one country can be traded and used in another country. On the global scale, the various regions of the world have vastly different demands for, and potentials to supply, biomass. Fischer and Schrattenholzer (2001) estimated the total, global bioenergy potential for crop residues, biomass from grasslands, and wood and forest residues at 225,000 PJ in 1990. A review of various studies (Berndes et al., 2003) showed that the estimated global potential of bioenergy varied widely between 30,000 and 340,000 PJ/year (in 2020–2030), depending on assumptions made

*Corresponding author.

E-mail address: leif.gustavsson@miun.se (L. Gustavsson).

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regarding land availability and cultivated species. Within the EU 2900 PJ of bioenergy were used in 2003, while the potential of biomass for energy is estimated to be about 7900 PJ/year by 2010 (EC, 2005). Intra-European trade in biomass is expanding and will likely continue to expand. While Sweden is a net exporter of wood-based products (Skogsstyrelsen, 2006), the EU-25 is in general a net importer. Intercontinental trade of biomass for energy, for example, wood pellets from Canada and ethanol from Brazil, is already occurring and is expected to increase.

Designing a national strategy aimed at expanding the use of biomass energy involves boundary conditions beyond those linked to techno-economic aspects of energy systems. It includes policy priorities, short- and long-term goals, available biomass potential, possibilities for technological development, the economic situation, and identification of niche markets and opportunities for added value. Strategy development becomes more difficult as the system becomes more complex and the number of actors increases, but regional and international perspectives are important when developing national strategies because additional opportunities may arise, and implementation priorities may shift, as the geographic scale of analysis becomes larger. Nevertheless, detailed energy policy is implemented at the national level, and commitments to international agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol exist at the national level.

Recent studies have recognised that the Swedish production of biomass for energy could be significantly increased (Börjesson et al., 1997; Hagström, 2006; Commission on Oil Independence, 2006). The amount of increased production would depend on, *inter alia*, forest management intensity (including fertilisation), recovery of forest biomass residues (including thinning residues, harvest slash, and stumps), the use of fallow land for biofuel cultivation, the selection of species to be cultivated, the level of wood products manufactured and the recovery of associated by-products, and the recovery of post-consumer wood waste (including demolition residues). In 2004, about 400 PJ of biomass were used in the Swedish energy sector (STEM, 2005). Börjesson et al. (1997) estimated that in the long run it is possible to produce in Sweden a total of up to 820 PJ/year of biomass through intensive management in forestry and agriculture, including energy crop cultivation on set-aside land. The Commission on Oil Independence (2006) estimates that Swedish biomass production for energy could be twice as large as today by 2050, or about 800 PJ/year.

In this study, we consider various ways to use up to 400 PJ/year of additional biomass in Sweden, corresponding to a total Swedish biomass use of up to 800 PJ/year. The biomass use options are analysed in a Swedish context, while acknowledging that the Swedish energy system is linked in many ways to regional and global systems.

2. Aim

Biomass is renewable, if properly managed, and biomass energy has net emissions of CO₂ to the atmosphere only to the extent that fossil fuels are used in operation of the system. Sustainably managed biomass systems recycle the carbon that is taken in by photosynthesis and return it to the atmosphere during combustion. The net effect is that solar energy is used to provide energy services, and plants provide energy concentration and storage in chemical bonds.

Biomass is a limited resource and in many applications it is currently more expensive than fossil fuels, at least if climate change and energy security benefits are not considered. To use biomass energy as inexpensively as possible will facilitate an expansion of its use, and to use it as efficiently as possible will increase the impact of its use on achieving policy objectives. That is, if biomass is to be used in place of fossil fuels, it should be done in the applications where it most effectively serves society's objectives. The choice of biomass energy systems, and the parameters chosen for comparing them, will vary according to the objectives of the analysis. For example, greenhouse gas benefits of biomass use can be optimised with respect to any of several limiting factors, including per ton of biomass feedstock, per hectare of land, per unit of monetary resources spent for carbon emission reduction, or per unit of bioenergy output that can be absorbed by a specific market or sector (Schlamadinger et al., 2005). Regardless of the factor to be optimised, it has become widely accepted to include the full chain of biomass use within the analytical system boundaries, from primary plant growth to final fuel consumption (Schlamadinger et al., 1997).

There has been growing interest in efficient ways to use biomass for the substitution of fossil fuels and non-biomass materials, and many studies have compared the substitution efficiency of various technologies (see Section 4). In this paper, we apply these data to construct a national-scale analysis of how biomass could be used efficiently to meet the two objectives of reducing CO₂ emissions and oil use, considering monetary, primary energy, and biomass costs. We focus particularly on the compatibility of the multiple objectives and the trade-offs to be encountered in pursuing multiple objectives. Our primary focus is on the single country of Sweden, but we acknowledge that Sweden exists in a global energy market. We do not specifically address the efficiency of energy use at final demand, although it is clear that biomass can meet a larger fraction of total demand if that total demand is reduced. Our analysis is based on a review of techno-economic studies concerning various biomass options in the context of boundary conditions that apply to Sweden. Our goal is to better understand how a potentially important energy resource—biomass—can be used efficiently to satisfy the multiple objectives of energy policy.

3. Methods

3.1. Methodological framework

We begin with a technologic–economic survey of different options for using biomass, using common system assumptions to allow comparison among the options. We consider state-of-the art technologies, or technologies that could be commercialised in the short term. We then evaluate the potential use of the different biomass options within the Swedish context. The options considered for increased use of biomass are electricity and heat production including in combined heat and power (CHP) plants, liquid transport fuels, building construction, iron production, and co-production of electricity and refined fuels in pulp mills.

We calculate six indices for each of the various options for using biomass. Three of the indices compare the options in terms of their effectiveness in *reducing CO₂ emission*:

- Monetary cost of CO₂ mitigation (€/CO₂ avoided).
- Primary energy cost of CO₂ mitigation (GJ primary energy/CO₂ avoided).
- Biomass cost of CO₂ mitigation (GJ biomass/CO₂ avoided).

These indices express, respectively, the economic, the primary energy, and the biomass use efficiency of reducing CO₂ emissions. Primary energy use is defined here as the total amount of energy in basic forms (e.g. coal, crude oil, biomass) needed to produce a final energy service, after taking into account losses from extraction, conversion, and transport and distribution. Similarly, we use three indices to compare the effectiveness of the biomass options in *reducing oil use*:

- Monetary cost of reduced oil use (€/GJ oil reduced).
- Primary energy cost of reduced oil use (GJ primary energy/GJ oil reduced).
- Biomass cost of reduced oil use (GJ biomass/GJ oil reduced).

These three indices recognise that the provision of oil products is a principal concern with respect to energy security, even though Sweden and many other countries of the EU are also reliant on imports of coal, natural gas, and even biomass fuels. Given the limited nature of the biomass resource, we place particular emphasis on indices 3 and 6 in the list above, the amount biomass required to avoid a unit of CO₂ emissions and a unit of oil use, respectively.

The trade-offs that may exist in attempting to reduce CO₂ emission and reduce oil use, individually, and jointly, are then analysed. For this purpose, we set up scenarios in which biomass is used primarily to reduce either CO₂ emissions or the use of oil. We also seek biomass uses that simultaneously reduce both CO₂ emissions and oil use. As

the production of ethanol for use in the transport sector to reduce oil imports and CO₂ emissions is an option that is being politically discussed in Sweden, we include a scenario in which biomass is used intensively to produce ethanol for transport fuels. Thus, the four scenarios described here are

1. CO₂ emission reduction scenario—to mitigate climate change,
2. oil use reduction scenario—to reduce oil dependence,
3. combined scenario—reducing both CO₂ emissions and oil use, and
4. ethanol scenario—using biomass to produce ethanol for use as transport fuel.

We concentrate on the use of additional biomass, biomass that is potentially available but is not currently used for energy or material purposes. Thus, based on options available at the national level, we discuss how increased Swedish biomass production of up to 400 PJ/year could be used to reduce CO₂ emissions and oil use.

3.2. Basic assumptions

Obtaining and using biomass and fossil fuels requires energy input for processing and transport. The relevant characteristics of various forms of biomass production, and of the fossil fuels, are summarised in Table 1. In our scenario calculations, we base CO₂ emissions, oil use, and primary energy use for obtaining biomass on a mixture of biomass sources including short rotation forestry, thinning and harvest residues from conventional forestry, stumps, processing residues, and post-consumer wood such as demolition residues (see Table 1). The actual mixture of biomass sources may be different from that assumed here, but this would have minimal impact on the overall results. Wood density is assumed to be 400 kg dry matter/m³. The moisture content and lower heating value of fresh biomass are, respectively, assumed to be 60% and 15.3 GJ/tonne dry matter.

We assume that the marginal electricity is coal fired, i.e. that incremental use or savings of electricity will be of electricity from a coal-fired steam condensing plant. Marginal electricity production in Swedish analyses is generally considered to be Danish coal-fired plants, although natural gas could also be considered as a marginal fuel (see Section 7.2). The use or replacement of fossil fuels impacts CO₂ emissions, oil use, and primary energy use. Data on these aspects of reference fossil-energy carriers (Table 1) are based on life-cycle analyses and are derived from UBA (2006). The base year for costs, energy use, and emissions is 2003, the latest year for which complete data are available.

The costs of oil-based energy carriers are based on a crude oil price of 40 US\$/bbl. The prices of gasoline, diesel, and heavy and light fuel oils are assumed to be coupled to crude oil prices. The ratio of gasoline and diesel prices to

Table 1
CO₂ emission, oil use, primary energy use, and monetary cost for biomass sources and reference fossil-energy carriers

Source	Description	CO ₂ emission (kg C)	Oil use (GJ oil)	Primary energy use ^a (GJ _{primary})	Monetary cost (€ ₂₀₀₃)
<i>Biomass</i>					
Short rotation forestry (1,2)	Production and transport	0.86	0.021	0.046	3.2
Thinning residues (1,3)	Recovery and transport	0.94	0.043	0.047	3.8
Harvest residues (1,3)	Recovery and transport	0.78	0.034	0.039	3.8
Stumps (4)	Recovery and transport	0.55	0.026	0.025	4.0
Processing residues (5)	Recovery and transport	0.22	0.010	0.011	3.3
Demolition residues (5)	Recovery and transport	0.22	0.010	0.011	2.2
Mixture of biomass sources used in this study ^b		0.68	0.026	0.035	3.4
<i>Fossil</i>					
Coal (6,7)	Anthracite, import Sweden	29.2	0.00	0.12	2.0
Oil (6,7)	Crude oil mix Sweden	20.8	1.00	0.03	6.4
Natural gas (6,7)	Natural gas mix Sweden	15.6	0.00	0.01	5.1
Diesel (7,8)	Refinery	21.7	1.03	0.10	8.4
Gasoline (7,8)	Refinery	24.0	1.14	0.20	8.4
Light fuel oil (7,9)	Refinery	21.9	1.04	0.10	6.4
Heavy fuel oil (7,9)	Refinery	23.1	1.08	0.10	4.5
Electricity from coal (10)	Steam-turbine (eff. 40%)	72.9	0.00	1.80	10.1

All numbers are per GJ of energy carrier.

(1) Börjesson (1996), (2) VärmeForsk (undated), (3) STEM (2006), (4) Näslund and Gustavsson (2007), (5) Gustavsson et al. (2006b), (6) IEA (2005), (7) UBA (2006), (8) JRC (2005), (9) STEM (2004), (10) STEM (2003).

^aPrimary energy values do not include the feedstock energy of the fuel or electricity itself.

^bAssuming a mixture of 30% short rotation forestry, 20% thinning residues, 20% harvest residues, 5% stumps, 10% processing residues, and 15% demolition residues.

crude oil price is assumed to be 1.3 (JRC, 2005). The ratios of heavy and light fuel oil prices to crude oil price are assumed to be 0.7 and 1.0, respectively (STEM, 2004). The production cost for coal-based electricity includes depreciation of capital.

Cost calculations of the biomass use options and the fossil reference systems are based on both investment and operating costs. Transaction costs are not included, and we do not consider the effects of energy or carbon taxes.¹ A lifetime of 25 years for CHP and power plants and 15 years for other technologies is assumed. Monetary costs are calculated with an interest rate of 6%. Costs depend to a large extent on whether or not investments in biomass-based technologies are made *instead* of investments in conventional technology. If the investment in biomass technology is considered to be additional, e.g. replacing an installation that would not otherwise be replaced, then at least part of the installation cost has to be accounted for in the mitigation cost, depending on the remaining lifetime of the existing fossil technology. Since our study has a long time-scope, we assume that investments in biomass

technologies are made when old fossil equipment would have to be replaced or retrofitted in any event. Consequently, we account for the cost difference between the fossil and the biomass technologies, including the full investment costs for both systems. If the fossil investment were not fully considered, the mitigation cost would be higher.

3.3. Decision making with multiple objectives

In a multi-objective decision situation in the absence of uncertainty we often search for *pareto optimal* solutions (Winston, 1994). A solution is pareto optimal if there is no other solution that is at least as good with respect to every objective and better with respect to at least one objective. In general, there are infinitely many pareto optimal solutions. A common approach to single-objective problems is optimisation by linear programming. Linear programming can also be used to identify a set of pareto optimal solutions in a multiple-objective problem. Choosing between different pareto optimal solutions may involve, for example, weighting of objectives, definition of acceptable levels, ranking of the importance of the objectives, definition of targets, and assignment of distance measures for each option relative to the target (Hobbs and Meier, 2003). In any case, the choice between pareto optimal solutions requires some form of valuation. How different

¹In Sweden, carbon taxes are applied to CO₂ emissions, and energy taxes are applied to the use of particular forms of energy. The mitigation costs calculated in this analysis are the direct costs required to *avoid* a unit of CO₂ emission or oil use. If a carbon or oil tax is included in the analysis, the mitigation costs would be the direct costs minus the avoided tax.

objectives are valued will depend on the priorities, risk aversion, etc. of individual decision makers.

Optimisation is inherently difficult in problems subjected to large uncertainties, since the optimal solution may vary largely depending on the assumptions made. Least-cost optimisation under uncertain external costs is one such example (Gustavsson and Karlsson, 2006). In the present study, we apply an approach that combines weighting of attributes with exogenous constraints that appears practically attractive (Section 6.4). Preliminary comparison to optimisation by linear programming shows that the resulting scenarios are close to pareto optimal, under the assumptions used.

4. Efficiency of biomass substitution

Here, we discuss the various technological options for using biomass in place of fossil fuels and non-biomass materials, and we calculate parameter values for CO₂ emission and oil use reductions in terms of monetary cost, primary energy cost, and biomass cost.

4.1. Electricity and heat

Biomass can be used to produce electricity and/or heat and as such can substitute for fossil fuels for the production of electricity and/or heat. The efficiency of this substitution with regard to CO₂ emission and oil use reduction will depend on the biomass conversion technologies chosen and on the reference energy systems for which they substitute. Substitution is regarded on a system level, i.e. biomass heat and/or power production replaces a fossil option with similar output. A variety of technology choices is possible for the investigation of biomass energy as well as for the fossil options to be displaced. Here, we have analysed a number of technologies to produce heat, CHP, and electricity from biomass, listed in Table 2. In each case, we have paired these technologies with comparable technologies to produce heat and/or electricity from coal, natural gas or oil.² Data on the reference heat and power plants include oil used and CO₂ emitted during the production and delivery of the energy carrier, and are based on a similar technology level as the biomass system (UBA, 2006). The production costs of the biomass and fossil systems are determined from fuel costs and investment and operating costs (see Section 3.2). An overview of efficiencies and costs used in this study is given in the appendix (Tables A1 and A2). The results of the

comparisons between biomass plants and fossil reference plants are presented in Table 2.

4.2. Transport fuels

A broad variety of bio-based transport fuels exists, see e.g. JRC (2005). Here, we select liquid transport fuels that can be produced from lignocellulosic biomass with technologies available in the short term. Di-methyl-ether (DME) and Fischer-Tropsch (FT) diesel are used to replace diesel, while ethanol and methanol are used to replace gasoline.

Data on the energy efficiency and costs of ethanol, FT-diesel, and methanol production are derived from Hamelinck and Faaij (2006), while data on the energy efficiency and costs of DME production are from Bio-DME Consortium (2002). The fuel economy is different for different fuel/engine combinations. Alcohols may have a higher efficiency than gasoline in spark-ignition engines, but estimates of the magnitude of the advantage vary (Ahlvik and Brandberg, 2001; Hamelinck and Faaij, 2006; Maclean and Lave, 2000, 2003). We apply correction factors based on intermediate values. Efficiency differences found for different fuels in compression-ignition (diesel) engines are small (Hamelinck and Faaij, 2006) and are disregarded here. Results for the production of biofuels are presented in Table 2, while detailed data for the calculations are shown in Table A3.

4.3. Wood construction

Increasing the use of wood material in construction is an option for reducing CO₂ emissions and oil use. Producing wood construction materials uses less energy and results in lower net CO₂ emission than using materials such as reinforced concrete (Börjesson and Gustavsson, 2000; Gustavsson and Sathre, 2006). In this study, wood usage is compared to a reference scenario in which reinforced concrete is used as building material. Calculations are based on a case study of a multi-story apartment building constructed in Sweden using wood structural framing, compared to a functionally equivalent building constructed with a reinforced concrete frame (Gustavsson et al., 2006b). The comparison is made on a building level, and all materials composing the two buildings are included in the calculations. The reductions in net CO₂ emission and oil use, over the building lifecycle, per unit of *additional* wood needed to make the wood-frame building, are calculated. The oil reduction cost takes into account oil-based fuels used for the manufacture and transport of materials for the two versions of the building. The CO₂ reduction cost takes into account emissions from fossil fuel combustion for material processing and logistics, the reduction of emissions due to replacing fossil fuel with biomass residues, the avoided emissions due to cement process reactions, and the carbon stock change in wood materials.

²The biomass CHP plants are compared to coal or natural gas-fired CHP plant or to an oil-based heat plant plus an oil-based power plant, as oil-based CHP plants are uncommon. Also, the biomass CHP plants are compared to resistance heating with coal-fired electricity. In each case, the amount of heat produced is the same for the biomass plant and for the fossil option. When a biomass CHP plant is compared with resistance heating, excess electricity production is assumed to replace electricity produced in a stand-alone coal-fired power plant.

Table 2
Costs in biomass (GJ_{biom}), primary energy (GJ_{prim}), and money (Euro₂₀₀₃) of CO₂ emission reduction (per Mg C emission avoided) and oil use reduction (per GJ oil use avoided) of different options for using a biomass technology instead of the reference technology

Ref. no.	Reference fossil technology	Biomass technology	Biomass cost per carbon avoided (GJ biom/Mg C)	Primary energy cost per carbon avoided (GJ prim/Mg C)	Monetary cost per carbon avoided (Euro/Mg C)	Biomass cost per oil avoided (GJ biom/GJ oil)	Primary energy cost per oil avoided (GJ prim/GJ oil)	Monetary cost per oil avoided (Euro/GJ oil)	Total potential (PJ biomass)
<i>Small-scale heat</i>									
S1	Small-scale oil boiler	Pellet boiler	68.0	17.3	−37.2	1.4	0.3	−0.7	29.94
S2	Small-scale gas boiler	Pellet boiler	107.7	38.2	−12.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.80
S3	Electric resistance heating	Pellet boiler	19.3	−18.9	−53.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	36.38
S4	Electric boiler	Pellet boiler	18.9	−19.3	−2.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	35.23
S5	Small-scale oil boiler	Heat pump with bio-electricity	27.9	−21.6	−164.9	0.6	−0.5	−3.7	14.05
S6	Small-scale gas boiler	Heat pump with bio-electricity	41.1	−23.0	−205.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.37
S7	Electric resistance heating	Heat pump with bio-electricity	8.7	−29.6	−92.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.08
S8	Electric boiler	Heat pump with bio-electricity	8.5	−29.8	−42.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	16.54
S9	Small-scale oil boiler	DH-BIG/CC CHP	25.3	−15.3	14.7	2.7	−1.6	1.6	58.38
S10	Small-scale gas boiler	DH-BIG/CC CHP	27.3	−15.1	21.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.56
S11	Electric resistance heating	DH-BIG/CC CHP	17.1	−21.2	−9.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	70.95
S12	Electric boiler	DH-BIG/CC CHP	16.9	−21.3	13.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	68.71
<i>Medium-scale heat</i>									
M1	Oil boiler	Medium-scale wood boiler	50.1	−0.1	−4.6	1.0	0.0	−0.1	19.30
M2	Gas boiler	Medium-scale wood boiler	74.0	10.4	68.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.45
m3	Oil boiler	DH-BIG/CC CHP	25.1	−15.7	11.2	2.5	−1.6	1.1	44.34
m4	Gas boiler	DH-BIG/CC CHP	27.1	−15.2	26.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.92
m5	Electric resistance heating	DH-BIG/CC CHP	17.1	−21.2	−55.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	23.94
m6	Electric boiler	DH-BIG/CC CHP	16.9	−21.3	−32.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.98
<i>Industrial heat/steam</i>									
i1	Process heat, oil boiler	Industrial wood boiler	45.8	−1.7	19.6	1.0	0.0	0.4	9.44
i2	Industrial space heating, oil boiler	Medium-scale wood boiler	50.7	0.4	−4.7	1.0	0.0	−0.1	16.00

i3	Industrial space heating, oil boiler	DH-BIG/CC CHP	25.2	−15.7	11.6	2.5	−1.5	1.1	36.76
<i>District heating</i>									
d1	Heat plant base-load oil	DH BIG/CC CHP	24.4	−16.8	−31.0	2.1	−1.5	−2.7	5.11
d2	DH gas CHP	DH BIG/CC CHP	53.9	−5.3	20.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.94
d3	DH coal CHP	DH BIG/CC CHP	26.4	−9.4	−14.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.18
d4	Heat plant peak-load oil	Wood-powder burner	72.5	19.5	109.9	1.2	0.3	1.9	11.90
<i>Electric power only</i>									
e1	Power plant oil	Power-BIG/CC	41.6	−8.6	−109.3	0.9	−0.2	−2.3	7.99
e2	Power plant coal	Power-BIG/CC	31.6	−6.5	79.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.89
<i>Transport fuels</i>									
t1	Gasoline	Ethanol	76.1	29.1	334.4	2.1	0.8	9.2	411.30
t2	Gasoline	Methanol	79.6	26.4	125.6	1.3	0.4	2.1	259.25
t3	Diesel	DME	102.4	47.7	494.1	1.6	0.7	7.7	219.37
t4	Diesel	FT-Diesel	82.1	34.0	294.2	2.1	0.9	7.7	289.96
<i>Building material</i>									
b1	Concrete-frame building	Wood-frame building	16.1	−9.6	−789.0	6.8	−4.0	−331.1	1.45
<i>Metallurgy</i>									
c1	Metallurgy coke	Charcoal	40.2	4.3	199.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.24
<i>Pulp and paper, BLG</i>									
p1	Power plant coal	BLGCC	15.6	−22.3	−20.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	23.17
p2	Diesel	BLG DME	169.5	86.1	−20.0	1.0	0.5	−0.1	75.38
p3	Gasoline	BLG Methanol	98.4	30.7	−83.8	0.8	0.3	−0.7	77.97
<i>Pulp and paper, Lime kiln fuel switch</i>									
p4	Fuel oil lime kiln	Bark lime kiln	74.7	22.7	45.3	1.3	0.4	0.8	8.27

The total potential is the amount of biomass needed for the biomass technology to completely replace the reference technology in Sweden at 2003 usage levels. The reference numbers assigned to each technology correspond to the numbers in Figs. 2–5. “N/A” means that the index is not applicable because no oil use is avoided.

DH: district heating; BIG/CC: biomass integrated gasification/combined cycle; CHP: combined heat and power; DME: di-methyl-ether; FT: Fischer–Tropsch; BLGCC: black liquor gasification combined cycle.

Primary energy used for production of materials is shown in Table A4. As we consider all biomass flows associated with the building construction to be part of the system, the biomass residues from the harvest, processing and demolition that are available for use outside of the production process are assumed to be used as biofuel to replace fossil fuel for electricity production; see Section 4.1. The 2003 monetary costs for construction of the wood- and concrete-framed buildings are estimated by adjusting the building costs at time of construction (Persson, 1998) with the building price index for multi-dwelling buildings in Sweden (Statistics Sweden, 2006a). The wood-frame building is approximately €55,000 less expensive than the concrete-frame version, so the monetary costs of CO₂ and oil reduction are negative, i.e. there is a reduction in CO₂ emissions, oil use, and cost. The results are shown in Table 2.

4.3. Ferrous metallurgy industry

The smelting of iron from ore is accomplished by mixing the ore with a solid, combustible, carbonaceous material that performs three functions: the combustion of the material raises the temperature of the ore; carbon from the material strips oxygen from the ore to yield elemental iron plus CO₂; and the refractory strength of the material provides voids that allow gas permeability during smelting (Gupta, 2003). Charcoal made from biomass and coke made from coal are both suitable for use in iron production. Charcoal was long used to smelt iron and was gradually displaced by coke during recent centuries. In 1948, 31% of Swedish pig iron was made using charcoal (FAO, 1964). No charcoal is used in Swedish iron and steel production now. In 2004 in Sweden, 4.1 Mtonne of crude steel were produced from ore (Jernkontoret, 2006), using 1.5 Mtonne of coke (Statistics Sweden, 2006b). Although the Swedish iron and steel industry is more efficient than the global average, production of iron from ore still emitted about 4.3% of total net Swedish CO₂ emission in 2004 (SEPA, 2006b).

To calculate the CO₂ and oil reduction efficiency of using charcoal for iron smelting, we assume that equal weights of charcoal and coke are equally effective in iron production (FAO, 1964). We assume a coal-to-coke conversion efficiency of 80% by dry weight (Eikeland et al., 2001), and a biomass-to-charcoal efficiency of 37% (Antal et al., 1996). We assume that charcoal is made from primary roundwood because of the larger size of biomass raw material needed. The fossil carbon emissions from forestry operations are based on Berg and Lindholm (2005). Combustible gas is recovered from the coke oven (Diemer et al., 2004) and the charcoal retort (Eikeland et al., 2001). This gas is used to fire the coke oven and charcoal retort, respectively, and surplus gas is used to replace fossil fuel used for electricity production. Monetary costs for coke and charcoal are from Eikeland et al. (2001). The calculated monetary, primary energy, and

biomass costs of CO₂ emission and oil use reduction are shown in Table 2.

4.5. Pulp industry

The potential benefits of new technologies, including black liquor gasification (BLG), in a model pulp mill using modern, commercially available technology have been analysed by STFI (2003) and Berglin et al. (2003). Based on these results, we estimate the potential for increased production of electricity or transport fuels from biomass using BLG. The electricity is assumed to be produced using combined cycle technology, and transport fuels are assumed to be methanol or DME. The BLG system is compared with a conventional recovery boiler. The additional amount of biofuel needed to cover internal energy deficits due to exports of fuel or electricity depends on the energy balance of the reference mill and the changes induced by introduction of BLG. Model studies (STFI, 2003; Berglin et al., 2003) show that BLG with electricity production may, under certain conditions, increase the electricity surplus without the need for additional fuels. If transport fuel is produced instead, there will be a deficit of electricity and steam if the recovery boiler is fully replaced. If the pulp mill is integrated with a paper mill, the total energy demand will be higher and export of electricity or fuels will require input of additional biomass in any case. We assume that additional biomass will be required to cover a steam deficit for 75% of the black liquor if BLG is introduced. Use of black liquor and tall oil is aggregated in the statistics (Statistics Sweden, 2004c); we assume that 95% is black liquor.

The recovery boiler in a chemical pulp mill represents a large investment, and changes to the recovery system are likely to be done when the boiler needs to be replaced or retrofitted. Therefore, we base our calculations on the assumption that the existing recovery boiler is replaced also in the reference case.

Results for an integrated pulp and paper mill converted for BLG are presented in Table 2, and supporting data are shown in Table A5.

The switching of fuel for the lime kiln is another option for increased bioenergy use in sulphate pulp mills. The lime kiln is part of the chemical recovery cycle and is conventionally fired with oil. A few lime kilns have been successfully converted to biofuels (gasified or as dry powder) (Möllersten, 2002). Möllersten (2002) and references therein give estimates for total potential (1.0–1.2 TWh fuel oil substituted), incremental investment costs (0.5–0.6 million US\$/MW oil substituted), incremental operation and maintenance costs (0.4 million US\$/year excluding energy costs) for a biomass gasifier unit replacing an 11 MW oil burner. Furthermore, an estimated 1.3–1.4 MW of biofuel and an additional 0.04 MW electricity are needed to substitute 1 MW of oil. In the present study, we assume that lime kilns are converted to biofuels, and use mean values from the cost and efficiency

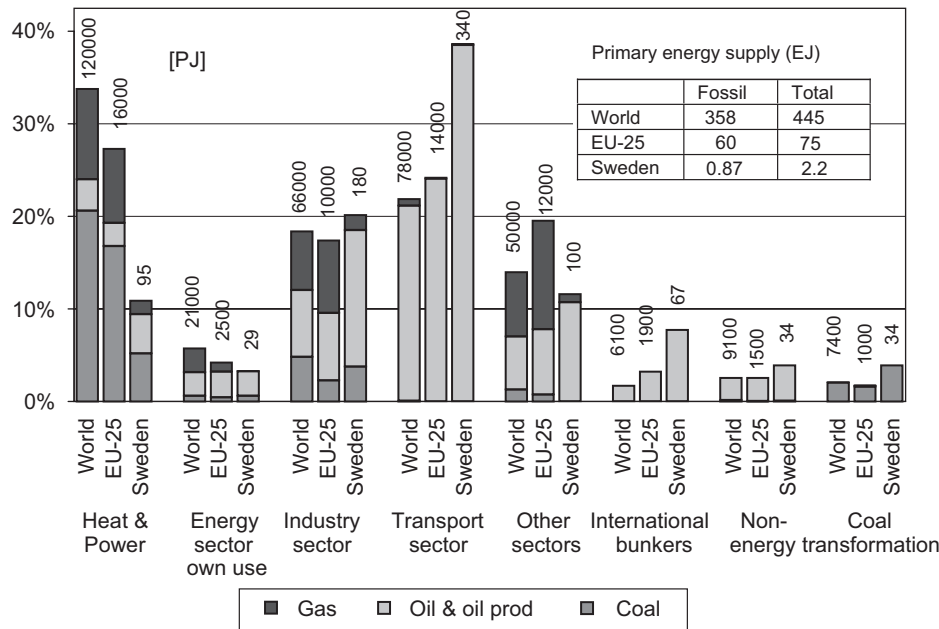


Fig. 1. Global, EU-25, and Swedish fossil fuel use in different sectors in 2003, as per cent of total fossil-fuel use. Absolute numbers (PJ) are shown above each bar, and totals are given in the inset box (IEA, 2005, 2006).

ranges given by Möllersten (2002). We assume that most of the 6 PJ of oil reportedly used for direct heat generation (Wiberg, 2001) was used in lime kilns, and that 75% of this could be replaced with biomass fuel. The results are shown in Table 2.

5. CO₂ emission and oil dependence

The Swedish energy supply differs significantly from the global and European energy supply (Fig. 1). Fossil fuels provide about 80% of global and EU primary energy supplies, but about 40% of the Swedish primary energy supply (IEA, 2005, 2006). Sweden produces large shares of electricity from nuclear and hydropower, and heat from biofuels. Hence, a higher proportion of fossil fuels is used in Sweden for transport and a lower proportion is used for heat and power.

Electricity production in the EU-25 is dominated by fossil thermal condensing plants, accounting for 57% of gross electricity supply, and nuclear power plants account for 31% (Eurostat, 2005), while about 10% of the electricity was co-generated with heat (Danko and Löfö-nen, 2006).

In the EU-25, oil accounts for about half of fossil fuel used, while coal and gas account for the remainder, the share of gas being slightly higher than that for coal. The trend is that natural gas is replacing coal over time (STEM, 2005). The EU-25 are strongly dependent on imports to meet their energy requirements,³ and this is forecast to continue if no measures are taken (EC, 2000).

³About 80% of the oil supplied to EU-15 in 2002 was imported, as was about 53% of the coal and 47% of the gas.

5.1. Swedish energy supply and oil dependence

The Swedish primary energy supply was 2158 PJ in 2003. Of this, 800 PJ was imported fossil fuel. Most of the remainder, 1295 PJ, was supplied by hydropower, nuclear energy, and renewable combustibles and waste (IEA, 2006). Renewable sources accounted for some 25%. Fossil-fuel use in Sweden is dominated by oil products, with smaller contributions from coal and gas (IEA, 2006). Excluding international bankers and non-energy use, the transport sector accounted for 44% of fossil-fuel use in 2003, while 23% was used by industry and 12% in the heat and electricity sector. Historically, the supply of crude oil and oil products was reduced by more than 40% between 1970 and 2004, while total energy supply (imports minus exports plus domestic primary energy, as defined by UN/ECE) increased by 42%. During this period, however, final energy use increased by only 8%. Hence, the energy efficiency of energy supply was reduced significantly.

Sweden is a net exporter or importer of electricity depending, *inter alia*, on the availability of water in hydropower reservoirs and on the temperature during the year. Hydropower and nuclear power provided an average of 46% and 43%, respectively, of Swedish electricity generation during the years 2000–2003. Another 7% of electricity was produced in CHP plants, of which 3% was in industrial plants (STEM, 2004). The marginal power production in the Nordic system, including Sweden, is mainly from Danish coal condensing power plants. In the future, the marginal electricity might be produced from natural gas in Norway (STEM, 2002a).

District heating accounts for some 47% of the space heating of residential and commercial premises in Sweden.

It is the most common form of heating in apartment buildings. Oil (18 PJ), coal (7.2 PJ), and natural gas (10.6 PJ) together accounted for 18% of the energy input to district heating in 2003, while biofuels, peat, refuse, etc. accounted for more than 60% (STEM, 2004, 2005). The remainder was supplied by heat pumps and waste heat.

In the *transport* sector (excluding international marine bunkers, but including international aviation), energy use increased by 79% between 1970 and 2004 (STEM, 2005). Personal travel, as well as the transport of goods, is dominated by road travel. The shares of gasoline and diesel in the energy used for transport were 53% (180 PJ) and 32% (110 PJ), respectively, while aviation fuel accounted for some 10% and electricity for 3% in 2003. Another 28 PJ of diesel was reported for other sectors, primarily the agricultural, forestry, and construction sectors (Statistics Sweden, 2005a).

The *pulp and paper* industry is energy intensive and accounts for about half of the industrial energy use in Sweden (Statistics Sweden, 2005a). In 2000, the latest year for which data are available, the total fuel use in the pulp and paper sector was 203 PJ, of which 77% was covered by internal biomass fuels, 13% by fossil fuels and 10% by other external fuels. Additionally, 63 PJ electricity from the grid was used in the sector (Wiberg, 2001).

The *ferrous metallurgy* sector used 15 PJ of coal and 27 PJ of coke in 2003 (Statistics Sweden, 2005a). Coke is produced in coke ovens, where coke-oven gas also is recovered. In 2003, 49 PJ of coal was used for coke production. The ferrous metallurgy sector thus accounts for the main part of the Swedish use of coal. The sector also used approximately 6 PJ of oil and 1 PJ of natural gas.

5.2. Swedish CO₂ emissions

The Swedish emissions of CO₂ from fossil fuels and industrial processes amounted to 15.4 TgC in 2003. An estimated net of 4.5 TgC were taken up in carbon sinks from land use, land-use change, and forestry activities (SEPA, 2006b). Sweden's per capita CO₂ emissions are among the lowest in the EU (Eurostat, 2006). Ninety-one per cent of the CO₂ emissions were related to energy use, while forest land dominated as a sink (Table 3). Fuel combustion in the transport sector accounted for 35% of the CO₂ emissions, while industries including energy, manufacturing, and construction accounted for 43%.

6. A scenario analysis of biomass use options

In this section, we construct four plausible scenarios for increasing the use of biomass in Sweden by up to 400 PJ/year, and examine how the different uses of biomass on a national scale will contribute towards reducing CO₂ emission and oil use. The first scenario devotes biomass to those uses that result in the largest reductions in CO₂ emissions per unit of biomass. The second scenario assigns biomass to uses that result in large reductions in oil use per

Table 3

Swedish CO₂ emissions and sinks in 2003 (SEPA, 2006b)

Source/sink	Emission (Tg C)	Per cent
Energy		
Fuel combustion: energy industries	3.55	23.1
Fuel combustion: manufacturing and construction	3.10	20.1
Fuel combustion: transport	5.36	34.8
Other fuel combustion	1.85	12.1
Fugitive emissions from fuels	0.20	1.3
Industrial processes		
Mineral products	0.53	3.4
Chemical industry	0.01	0.1
Metal production	0.71	4.6
Solvent and other product use	0.04	0.3
Waste incineration	0.03	0.2
Total from above sources	15.40	100%
Land use, land-use change, and forestry		
Forest land	−5.06	
Cropland	0.98	
Grassland	−0.64	
Settlements	0.21	
Total from LULUCF	−4.50	

unit of biomass. The third scenario seeks those uses for biomass that simultaneously reduce both CO₂ emissions and oil use. The fourth scenario assigns all biomass to ethanol production to replace gasoline.

6.1. Replacement potentials of fossil fuels

Here we determine the potential for biomass technologies to replace conventional, fossil-fuel technologies in the scenarios. Table 4 shows the 2003 level of activity for each fossil technology and an estimate of the technical potential to replace it with different biomass technologies. In each of the four scenarios, we select the replacement options that best fulfil the objectives of the respective scenarios. The most efficient measure is first implemented to its full technical potential, then the second best measure is implemented, and so on, until 400 PJ of additional biomass have been used.

Several factors may constrain the extent to which new technologies can be implemented in a given sector. In the heating sector, for example, not all end-use heating systems are appropriate for all buildings. District heating requires a certain heat density, and heat pumps require a suitable heat source. The fraction of detached houses with a particular type of heating system that are located in a densely populated area has been estimated by K-Konsult (2001), and these data are used here. We also assume that a pellet boiler could be installed in all houses that currently have a boiler. Medium-scale heating includes heating of multi-family houses and public and private facilities. We assume that fossil fuel and electric heating in medium-scale systems can be replaced by district heating or pellet boiler systems, with the same constraints as for small-scale heating technologies.

Table 4

Current levels of fossil use in Sweden, and potentials to replace with biomass intensive technologies

Fossil use	Current level of use/activity	Potential replacement ^a
Small-scale heating in densely populated areas (1–3)		
Oil boiler	20.4 PJ oil	PB: 100%, HP: 10%, DH: 95%
Gas boiler	0.7 PJ natural gas	PB: 95%, HP: 10%, DH: 95%
Electric boiler	19.0 PJ electricity	PB: 95%, HP: 10%, DH: 95%
Resistance heaters	18.0 PJ electricity	PB: 95%, HP: 10%, DH: 95%
Small-scale heating in sparsely populated areas (1–3)		
Oil boiler	8.4 PJ oil	PB: 100%, HP: 50%, DH: 0%
Electric boiler	7.8 PJ electricity	PB: 95%, HP: 50%, DH: 0%
Resistance heaters	9.7 PJ electricity	PB: 95%, HP: 50%, DH: 0%
Medium-scale heating (1,2)		
Oil boiler	20.5 PJ oil	PB: 100%, DH: 80%
Gas boiler	3.7 PJ natural gas	PB: 95%, DH: 80%
Electric boiler	4.7 PJ electricity	PB: 95%, DH: 80%
Resistance heaters	9.3 PJ electricity	PB: 95%, DH: 80%
Industrial oil use (1,4,5)	54 PJ oil	Process heat, biomass boiler: 20%, space heat: PB 30%, DH 25%
District heating (6)	11.9 PJ oil	BIG/CC CHP: 20%, wood powder burner: 65%
Electricity production (6)		
Oil power plant	8.7 PJ oil	BIG/CC: 50%
Coal power plant	6.4 PJ coal	BIG/CC: 100%
Transport (7)		
Gasoline	180 PJ gasoline	Methanol: 95%
Diesel	138 PJ diesel ^b	DME: 100%
Building construction (8)	20,000 apartments, concrete frame	Wood frame: 75%
Metallurgy (9)	41.6 PJ coke	Charcoal: 100%
Pulp and paper		
Black liquor (10)	138 GJ black liquor	BLG: 75%
Lime kilns (4)	6 PJ oil	Biomass fuel: 75%

(1) Statistics Sweden (2004a), (2) Statistics Sweden (2004b), (3) K-Konsult (2001), (4) Wiberg (2001), (5) SEPA (2006a), (6) Statistics Sweden (2005b), (7) Statistics Sweden (2005a), (8) Boverket (2006), (9) Statistics Sweden (2006b), (10) Statistics Sweden (2004c).

^aPB: pellet boiler; HP: heat pump; DH: district heating. For some categories, several possible biomass technologies are considered and they may have different potentials to replace the current use. In the case of oil boilers, for example, pellet boilers have the potential to replace 100% of oil boilers but district heating systems have the potential to replace less than 100%. The implementation of one technology will limit the potential for others.

^bIncluding 28.3 PJ delivered to other sectors than transport.

The industrial sector used 54 PJ of fuel oil in 2003 (Statistics Sweden, 2005a), though a complete breakdown of what this oil was used for is unavailable. Statistics Sweden (2004a) estimates the use of oil for space heating in industrial premises at about 17 PJ. Information on fossil fuels used for industrial processes is limited, but potentials have been identified to replace oil used to generate process steam in e.g. the pulp and paper industry (Wiberg, 2001; Statistics Sweden, 2004a; SEPA, 2006a). Some of this oil is used as peak-load fuel, for start-ups, and as backup fuel. In total, we assume that 50% of the 54 PJ of fuel oil used by the industrial sector can be replaced with biomass fuels: 10 PJ of oil used for process heat and 17 PJ of oil for heating of industrial premises. This is an uncertain assumption and further analysis will allow more precise calculations.

In the heat and power sector, oil is used mainly as a peak-load fuel. We assume that 20% of the oil used in stand-alone heat production is for base-load production and can be replaced by wood boilers, and that 80% of the remaining oil for peak-load production can be replaced using wood-powder burners fed with wood pellets. For electricity production, we

assume that all of the coal and 50% of the oil can be replaced by biomass-based production, partly due to load curve changes induced by reduced electric space heating.

Increased use of biomass in the construction sector is based on a near-term prognosis of the number of apartment buildings to be built in Sweden (Boverket, 2006). We assume that 75% of these multi-family dwellings would be built with wooden structural frames rather than reinforced concrete.

The technical processes currently used in the Swedish ferrous metallurgy sector do not allow a large-scale replacement of coke by charcoal. Nevertheless, biomass has been suggested as a potential future replacement for coal and coke in the iron-making industry (Gupta, 2003). As an indication of the full potential of this technology, we assume that all coke could be replaced by charcoal, acknowledging that this would require significant changes in the metallurgy industry. The uncertainty of this assumption is significant only for the CO₂ reduction scenario, because using biomass in the metallurgical sector is not among the technological options selected in the other three scenarios.

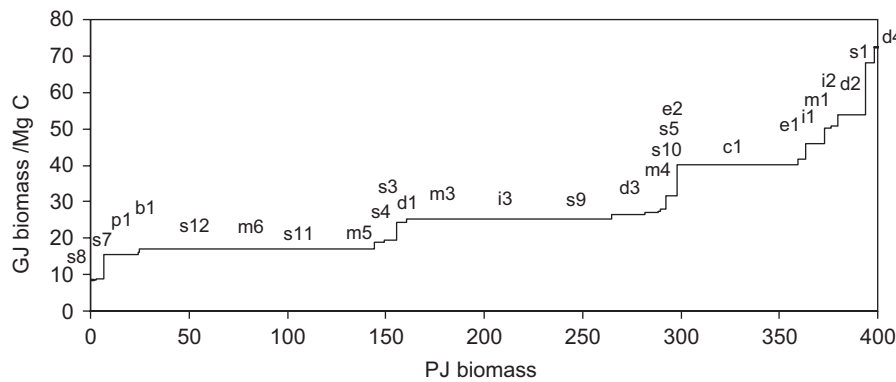


Fig. 2. Biomass cost to reduce CO₂ emission (GJ biomass/Mg C) in the CO₂ emission reduction scenario. The technologies are selected in order of increasing biomass cost and are assumed to be implemented in order until the available biomass resource is fully committed. The labels on the line segments refer to the technologies listed in Table 2.

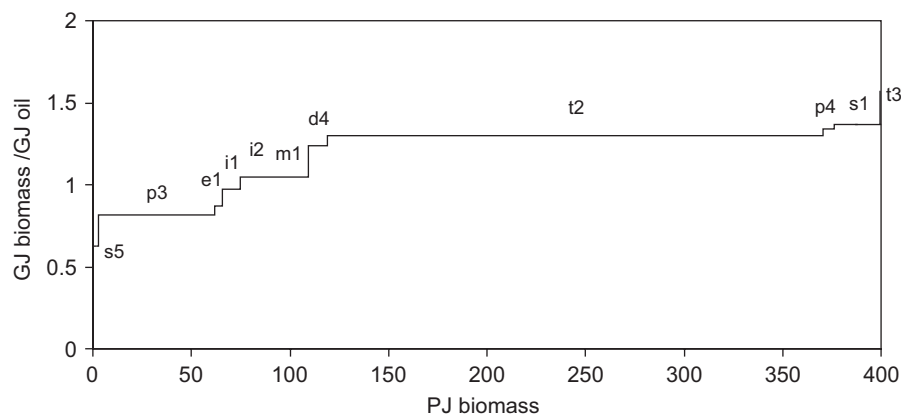


Fig. 3. Biomass cost to reduce oil use (GJ biomass/GJ oil) in the oil reduction scenario. The technologies are selected in order of increasing biomass cost and are assumed to be implemented in order until the available biomass resource is fully committed. The labels on the line segments refer to the technologies listed in Table 2.

6.2. CO₂ emission reduction scenario

This scenario involves selection of those technologic substitutions that require the smallest biomass use per unit of CO₂ emission reduction (Fig. 2). The technologies that most efficiently use biomass to reduce CO₂ emissions are the replacement of various heating technologies using electricity (“s” and “m” options), the construction of wood buildings (b1), and the production of electricity from black liquor (p1). Replacing electric space heating with heat pumps (s7, s8) has a lower biomass cost per unit of CO₂ reduction than does replacing electric space heating with district heating (s11, s12), but the CO₂ reduction per unit of replaced heat demand is higher for district heating because electricity is cogenerated. Therefore, the implementation of district heating is maximised in this scenario, despite its higher biomass cost, to optimise the overall CO₂ reduction.

6.3. Oil use reduction scenario

This scenario devotes biomass to those uses that require the smallest biomass use per unit of oil use reduction (Fig. 3).

The replacement of oil boilers for the production of heat (s5, m1, i1, i2) and electricity (e1), and the production of methanol from black liquor (p3) are the most efficient options. The production of methanol from black liquor (p3) is more favourable than the production of transport fuels in stand-alone facilities (t2). Replacement of industrial process heat (i1) as well as space heating (i2) is also more favourable than stand-alone transport fuel production.

6.4. Combined CO₂ emission and oil use reduction scenario

In the combined scenario, we seek to optimise the reduction of both CO₂ emissions and oil use, giving equal priority to both goals. Whereas in the previous two scenarios, it is clear how to prioritise the sequence of technologic adoptions, in this case it is necessary to select a suite of options to optimise the collective effect (see Section 3.3). The options have been ranked according to a weighted biomass cost of CO₂ emissions reduction and oil use reduction, where the value of each unit of CO₂ emissions or oil use reduced is assigned in relation to the reduction achievable if only one goal were prioritised. The weighted

biomass cost is calculated as

$$c_i = \frac{1}{1/(W_{\text{CO}_2} \times c_{i,\text{CO}_2}) + 1/(W_{\text{oil}} \times c_{i,\text{oil}})},$$

where c_i is the weighted biomass cost of technology i , c_{i,CO_2} the biomass cost of CO₂ reduction for technology i , $c_{i,\text{oil}}$ the biomass cost of oil reduction for technology i , W_{CO_2} is the maximum achievable CO₂ reduction with 400 PJ of biomass, and W_{oil} the maximum achievable oil reduction with 400 PJ of biomass (i.e. W_{CO_2} and W_{oil} are the reductions achieved in the CO₂ reduction and oil reduction scenarios, respectively). The unit of the weighted biomass cost is GJ of biomass.

Figs. 4 and 5 show the combined scenario with regard to the CO₂ emissions and oil use reduction objectives, respectively. Both the CO₂ emission and oil use reduction scenarios show that replacing electric and oil-based heating are efficient options. Also, increased use of wood in construction, BLG for electricity generation or motor fuels production, and replacing oil in stand-alone heat and power production are efficient options. Heat pumps with biomass-based electricity replacing oil boilers is the most efficient way to reduce the oil used in space heating

applications, but district heating with biomass-based CHP can avoid more CO₂ emissions since the co-generated electricity replaces power produced in stand-alone coal-fired plants. In this scenario, district heating dominates in densely populated areas, replacing 50% of the total heat demand currently supplied by oil and electricity. Heat pumps (20%) and pellet boilers (30%) supply the remaining small-scale heating demand. Electric heating in multi-family houses is replaced by district heating, while fossil fuel boilers are replaced by biomass boilers (50%) and district heating (50%). Oil used for space heating in industry is also replaced by pellet boilers and district heating in equal amounts. A strategy that focuses on this group of options seems to be an efficient approach if both oil reduction and climate change mitigation are given equal priority. BLG for transport fuel production gives CO₂ and oil use reductions, while electricity production from black liquor gives only CO₂ emission reduction.

6.5. Ethanol scenario

The ethanol scenario uses all available, additional biomass for ethanol production to replace gasoline. About

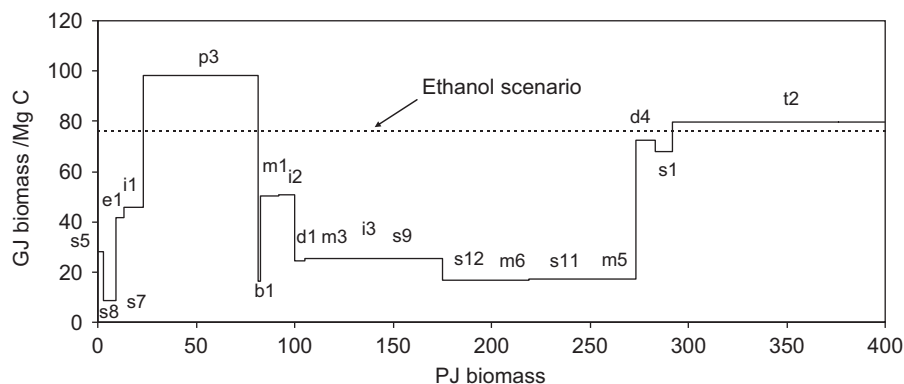


Fig. 4. Biomass cost to reduce CO₂ emissions (GJ biomass/Mg C) in the combined scenario, when reduction of CO₂ emissions and oil use are given equal priority. The biomass cost for CO₂ emission reduction in the ethanol scenario is also shown (dotted line). The labels on the line segments refer to the technologies listed in Table 2.

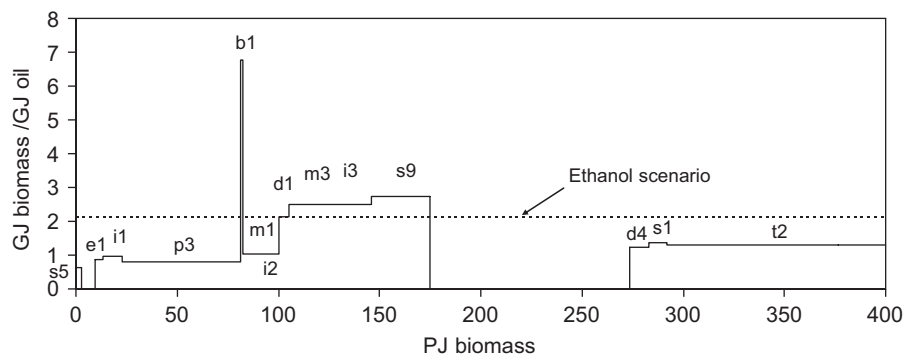


Fig. 5. Biomass cost to reduce oil use (GJ biomass/GJ oil) in the combined scenario, when reduction of CO₂ emissions and oil use are given equal priority. Negative costs indicate that oil use is increased, but the magnitude of the negative mitigation costs has no clear interpretation so only positive values are shown. The biomass cost for oil use reduction in the ethanol scenario is also shown (dotted line). The labels on the line segments refer to the technologies listed in Table 2; the line segments associated with negative values can be identified by comparison with Fig. 4.

400 PJ of biomass are needed to replace the present use of gasoline, so no other options are implemented in the ethanol scenario. The biomass cost of CO₂ emissions reduction for the ethanol scenario is 76.1 GJ biomass/Mg C, and this is shown as a straight, dotted line in Fig. 4. The biomass cost of oil use reduction for the ethanol scenario is 2.11 GJ biomass/GJ oil, and this is similarly shown in Fig. 5.

6.6. Cumulative effects of scenarios

In each scenario, biomass is used for the application that maximises the scenario objective, until the potential of that application is fulfilled. Additional biomass is then used for the next application that best meets the objective, until that application is fulfilled, and so on. At any given amount of biomass used, the cumulative achievement is the sum of the individual reductions of CO₂ emissions or oil use for all the measures implemented up to that amount of biomass use.

In Fig. 6, the cumulative contribution towards meeting the CO₂ emissions and oil use reduction objectives is shown for each of the four scenarios. The cumulative CO₂ mitigation when 400 PJ biomass are prioritised for CO₂ emissions reduction is about 17.4 Tg C, or more than three times greater than for the ethanol scenario and the oil reduction scenario. The cumulative CO₂ emission reduc-

tion of the combined scenario is 12.6 Tg C, or about 72% of the reduction of the CO₂ mitigation scenario.

The cumulative oil use reduction with 400 PJ of biomass prioritised for oil use reduction is about 347 PJ oil (Fig. 6). This is more than five times the oil use reduction of the CO₂ scenario (63 PJ). The combined scenario achieves 232 PJ oil use reduction, or about 67% of that of the oil reduction scenario, and the ethanol scenario achieves a reduction of 190 PJ oil. The cumulative oil reduction curve of the combined scenario is almost equal to the oil reduction scenario up to about 100 PJ of biomass. The combined scenario curve is above the ethanol scenario curve at all levels of biomass use.

The cumulative monetary and primary energy costs of each of the four scenarios are shown in Fig. 7. The combined scenario results in a monetary benefit of 45 million €/year, given our base case assumptions on fuel prices (US\$40/bbl crude oil; 3.35 €/GJ biomass). The ethanol scenario is by far the most expensive scenario, reaching a monetary cost of 1800 million €/year. The CO₂ reduction scenario has a monetary benefit until about 320 PJ of biomass have been used, but then becomes a net cost as more expensive technologies are implemented.

The expansion of district heating and heat pumps to replace less energy-efficient heating systems means that total primary energy use decreases significantly in the CO₂ emission reduction scenario and in the combined scenario

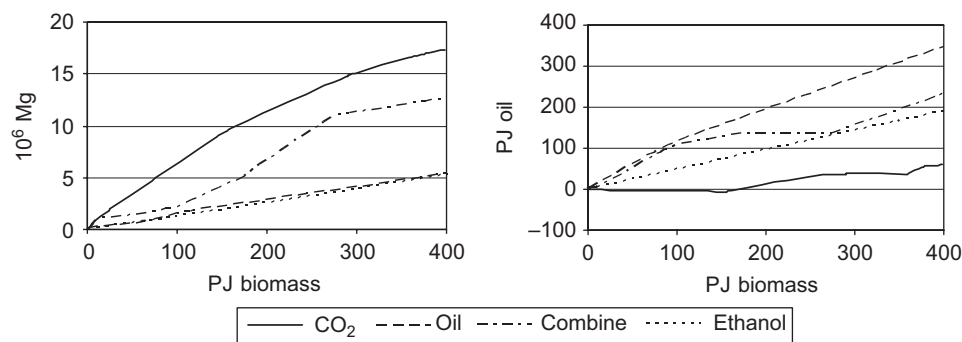


Fig. 6. Cumulative CO₂ emissions reduction (left) and oil use reduction (right) for the four scenarios: maximum CO₂ emission reduction (“CO₂”), maximum oil use reduction (“oil”), combined CO₂ and oil reduction (“combine”), and ethanol production (“ethanol”).

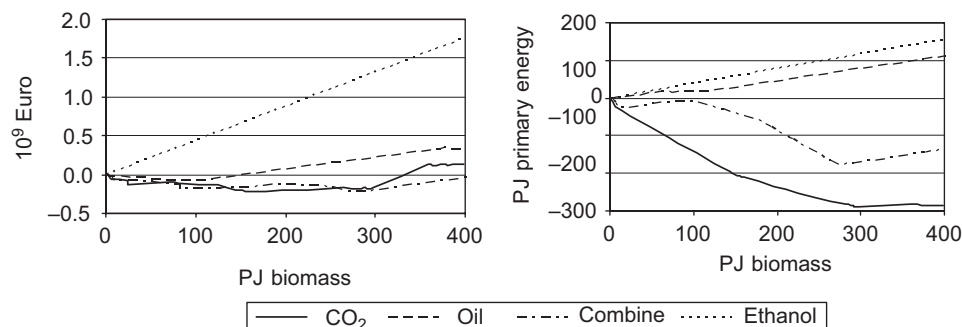


Fig. 7. Cumulative monetary cost (left) and primary energy cost (right) for the four scenarios: maximum CO₂ emission reduction (“CO₂”), maximum oil use reduction (“oil”), combined CO₂ and oil reduction scenario (“combine”), and ethanol production (“ethanol”).

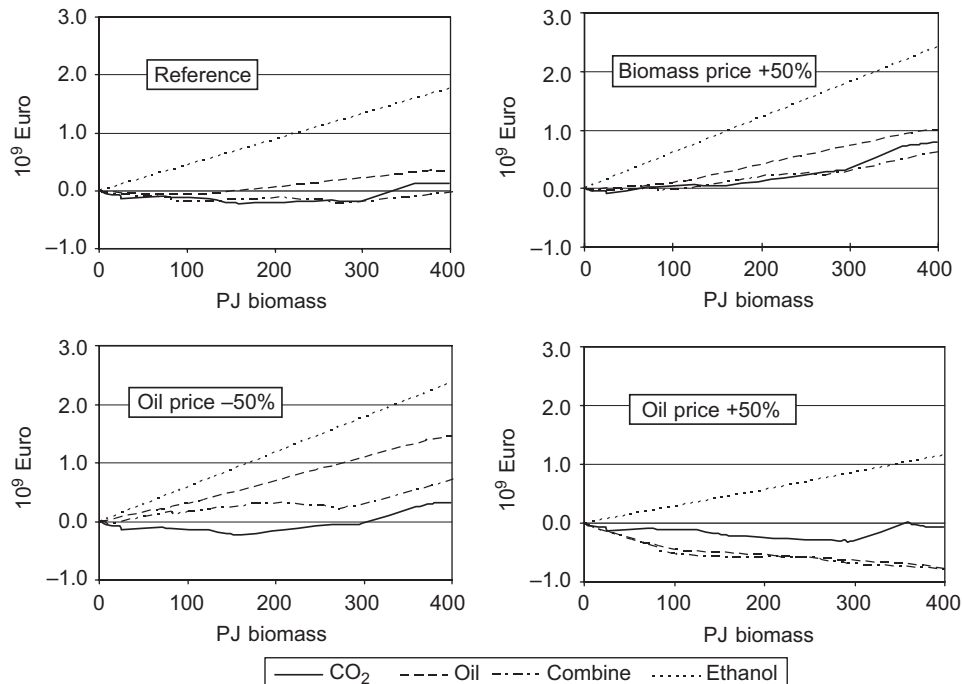


Fig. 8. Cumulative monetary costs for the four scenarios at different fuel prices. Prices are given in relation to the reference case prices (US\$40/bbl crude oil, 3.35 €/GJ biomass).

(Fig. 7). For the CO₂ scenario, the decrease is about 280 PJ of primary energy when 400 PJ of biomass is used. On the other hand, in the oil reduction and ethanol scenarios there is a focus on conversion of biomass to liquid fuels resulting in relatively high energy conversion losses; thus, total primary energy use increases by about 110 and 150 PJ, respectively.

The monetary cost results are very dependent on fuel prices, which have shown considerable variability and volatility. Therefore, we have recalculated all of the scenarios to illustrate the impact of different assumptions on biomass and oil prices. Cost changes for the scenarios are estimated by applying the biomass and oil price changes on the net biomass and oil use, respectively, for each scenario. Prices of refined fuels are thus assumed to change only by an amount corresponding to the feedstock cost change. Results are shown in Fig. 8. All scenarios are equally sensitive to changes in the biomass price, since all scenarios use the same amount of biomass. With the biomass price 50% higher than in the reference case, all scenarios have cumulative costs. On the other hand, the oil reduction scenario and the combined scenario are more sensitive to changes in the oil price than is the CO₂ scenario. At an oil price 50% lower than that in the reference case, the cumulative cost of the CO₂ scenario is lower than that for the other scenarios. At oil prices 50% higher than those in the reference scenarios, the oil reduction and combined scenarios have cumulative benefits, while the monetary cost for the CO₂ scenario is close to zero. The cumulative cost for the ethanol scenario is higher than that for all of the other scenarios and remains positive for all of the evaluated price levels.

7. Discussion

7.1. Trade-offs between objectives

Increased use of biomass provides an important potential for reducing CO₂ emissions and oil use. There are, however, a variety of technological options for using biomass and these options vary considerably in cost and in the extent to which they address these issues. Through development and analysis of four scenarios, we illustrate the trade-offs inherent in trying to use 400 PJ of additional biomass to simultaneously reduce CO₂ emissions and oil use. Optimising biomass use for CO₂ emissions reduction leads to significantly greater reductions in CO₂ emissions than if biomass use is optimised for reduction in oil use. Using 400 PJ of biomass, CO₂ emissions could be reduced by 17.4 and 5.4 Tg C in these two scenarios, respectively. On the other hand, the reduction of oil use is much larger in the oil reduction scenario, 347 PJ of oil compared with 63 PJ in the CO₂ emission scenario. The CO₂ emission reduction scenario has a monetary cost of 130 million €/year, while the oil reduction scenario costs 330 million €/year. These costs are, however, quite sensitive to changes in the price of oil and biofuels.

In the combined scenario that equally prioritises biomass uses to reduce both CO₂ emissions and oil use, 400 PJ/year of biomass results in a total reduction of 12.6 Tg C/year emissions and 232 PJ/year oil use. The CO₂ emissions and oil use reductions in this scenario are 72% and 67%, respectively, of the reductions achieved in the scenarios with single objectives. This combined scenario would give a

monetary benefit of 45 million €/year, i.e. cost savings. The cumulative monetary cost curves for the combined and CO₂ scenarios are very similar until about 300 PJ of biomass have been used. After 300 PJ, the technologies used in the CO₂ scenario become more expensive than those in the combined scenario; so the total monetary cost for using 400 PJ of biomass is lower in the combined scenario than in the CO₂ scenario.

The ethanol scenario reduced CO₂ emissions by only 5.3 Tg/year C, or 30% of the reduction of the scenario aimed specifically at reducing CO₂ emissions. Oil use reduction in the ethanol scenario was 190 PJ/year, or 55% of the maximum possible. The monetary cost for this scenario was significantly more expensive than the other options, at 1800 million €/year.

Given the options and assumptions considered in this study, at least two main technological options can be used to balance between the oil and CO₂ objectives of energy policy: (1) district heating vs. heat pumps or pellet boilers and (2) transport fuel or electricity production from BLG. District heating seems to be the best heating option if CO₂ mitigation is the highest priority, but it only reduces oil use when oil boilers are replaced. BLG seems to be an efficient technology that can produce either electricity or transport fuel, depending on the priorities.

7.2. Uncertainties

The results of this study, while robust overall, are subject to several uncertainties which are here identified and discussed. Our objective has not been to provide exact predictions or prescriptions for the future, but rather to show a broad picture of possible alternatives if the use of Swedish biomass is increased by up to double the current use. We have used general data collected from a number of sources, but the actual costs and efficiency of reducing CO₂ emissions and oil use for a particular technology may vary with local circumstances. We focus on technologies that are available today or that are judged to become available in the near future. For technologies that are not yet commercially available, costs and performance are based on estimates with larger uncertainty than for commercial technologies.

The level of detail in the current energy-use data is different in different sectors. The industrial sector uses a large share of the oil used in Sweden, though the energy use in this sector is diverse and the available data are sparse. A more detailed study of fossil fuel replacement options in this sector would reduce uncertainties on CO₂ emissions and oil use reduction potentials. Some options, for example using charcoal to replace metallurgical coke, would require substantial research and development to implement on a large scale; thus, we include these options to quantify potentials. Variation in the price of biomass has a large impact on the net cost of the different scenarios, but does not change the cost relation between the scenarios. Variations in the oil price, however, will change the monetary cost difference between the various scenarios

and hence the order ranking of the scenario costs. The inclusion of taxes on carbon emission or oil use would reduce the monetary mitigation cost of the avoided emission or oil use.

We have assumed that marginal electricity production is based on coal-fired plants, which are typically located outside of Sweden. Hence, the CO₂ emission reduction due to decreased use or increased production of electricity in Sweden will likely occur abroad, although typically within the EU bubble for greenhouse gas emissions. Natural gas-fired power plants, which have significantly lower CO₂ emission than coal-fired plants, might be an option for future marginal electricity production. The marginal fossil fuel that is replaced by an increased use of biomass will significantly affect the resulting decrease in carbon emissions, and further analysis could determine how this factor would influence the results of this study.

Our analysis incorporates structural changes in the Swedish energy system. For example, electric space heating is assumed to be replaced by district heating or heat pumps. Such structural changes will reduce primary energy use and monetary cost independent of the fuel used to supply district heat or electricity production. In our scenarios, we have not distinguished between the effects of such structural changes and the increased use of biofuels.

7.3. Sweden in an international context

We have focused on using Swedish biomass to meet needs within Sweden. However, from a larger system perspective, it might be possible to further reduce global CO₂ emissions or oil use by using Swedish biomass in other countries. By exporting biomass to be used in applications that result in high CO₂ emission or oil use reductions per unit of biomass, the total impact of the available supply of biomass could be increased. For example, substituting wood construction material in place of concrete has a high CO₂ emission reduction per unit of biomass, and constructing Swedish buildings with wood instead of concrete would affect a reduction in Swedish emissions. However, the total number of new buildings built per year in Sweden is small in relation to the total quantities of biomass potentially available. If the analysis is geographically limited to Sweden, the additional biomass would then be used for other uses with lower efficiency of emission reduction. However, if additional biomass is processed and exported in the form of prefabricated houses to be used instead of non-wood houses in other countries, the higher emission reduction per unit of biomass can be gained by a larger share of the biomass, thus resulting in a greater overall emission reduction globally.

A similar potential exists for using biomass to substitute coal for electricity production. The export of Swedish biomass to replace coal used in other countries might reduce total emissions more than if all the biomass were used in Sweden. Similarly, Swedish biomass exports could be used to reduce oil use in other countries. The trade-offs

involved in reducing global CO₂ emissions and oil use by exporting Swedish biomass, and the global effects of the development and implementation of a domestic biomass strategy for Sweden, are to be further analysed.

7.4. Learning, technology pull and lock-in

Our results suggest that, from the perspective of reducing CO₂ emission and oil use, it is efficient to use biomass in innovative technologies for electricity and heat production (heat pumps, pellet boilers, and BIG/CC), methanol production from BLG, and wood building construction. The implementation of such technologies could result in monetary cost savings (see Section 7.1) in addition to reductions in CO₂ emission and oil use. However, it is often difficult to implement innovative technologies for several reasons. They are usually capital intensive, and financial support may be required for the initial installations to make the technologies competitive in the long run. Quite often experience curves are used to estimate “learning investments,” i.e. cumulative costs for supporting new technologies so that these new technologies are competitive with the least-cost option (Neij et al., 2003). However, experience curves are not very useful for decision support except for an initial scanning. Technology learning is crucial but very uncertain to estimate. Therefore, we have based our analysis on current technology performance based on the state-of-the-art, or for technologies that could be commercialised in the short term.

Furthermore, the innovation and diffusion of innovative technologies is difficult not only because they are associated with risks and uncertainties, but also due to the path dependency of the existing innovation system. Introduction of innovative technologies requires new knowledge, actor networks, and financial resources, etc. The feedback process from markets creates technical improvements in existing technologies and tends to create “lock-in” and “lock-out” phenomenon. Arthur (1989) has argued that it is not because a particular technology is efficient that it is adopted, but rather because it is adopted that it will become efficient. Thus, technologies having a small short-term advantage may lock-in the technical basis of a society to technological choices that may have low long-term advantages. Other technologies are consequently locked-out. Technological change can go in multiple directions, but once change is initiated in a particular direction, it becomes increasingly difficult to change its course (Roehrl and Riahi, 2000). Hence, research, development, and demonstration efforts as well as investment decisions are critical in determining which long-term technological options may be opened, or which ones may be foreclosed.

For example, the use of ethanol instead of gasoline requires relatively small changes to vehicles and the fuel distribution system, so it is relatively easy to adapt to the existing system. Thus, an increased use of ethanol might strengthen the lock-in situation of existing technologies,

making it more difficult to develop and diffuse radical changes that better fulfil the societal objectives. In some cases, it is difficult to introduce an innovative technology even if it is less expensive than the existing technology. An example of this is the slow diffusion of multi-storey wooden building construction (Gustavsson et al., 2006a).

8. Conclusions

In this study, we have analysed ways to increase the use of biomass in Sweden to reduce CO₂ emissions and oil use. We have developed a methodological approach to better understand efficient ways to use a potentially important resource—biomass—given the multiple objectives of energy policy. We based this analysis on techno-economic data on using biomass to produce electricity, heat, liquid fuels, iron, and construction materials. The potential contribution of each biomass application is a function of the efficiency of reducing CO₂ emissions and/or oil use (per unit of biomass), and of the extent of each application within the Swedish economy. We prioritised each option for using biomass within four scenarios, each scenario with a specific goal: maximise CO₂ emissions reduction, maximise oil use reduction, simultaneously reduce both CO₂ emissions and oil use, and produce ethanol for use as a liquid transport fuel.

Our results suggest that a biomass use strategy that simultaneously fulfils two important objectives of Swedish energy policy, namely, CO₂ emission reduction and oil use reduction, is achievable. There would be, of course, trade-offs when multiple objectives are pursued. The strategic use of 400 PJ/year of additional biomass can reduce CO₂ emissions by 12.6 Tg C/year and oil use by 230 PJ/year. Strategies aimed at fulfilling only one of those objectives can achieve greater results in terms of that particular objective, but at the cost of a significantly lower effectiveness at fulfilling the other objective. A strategy of prioritising ethanol production fulfils both objectives less effectively, and at a much higher monetary cost.

The results of this analysis are based on general technological and economic data and are subject to considerable uncertainty in the details. Uncertainty applies both in terms of case-by-case variability of the effectiveness of CO₂ emission and oil use reductions for each biomass application, as well as in terms of the temporal dynamics of the introduction of biomass to substitute for fossil-fuel uses. A widening of the geographic scope of the analysis, from within Sweden to a regional or global perspective, could show an increase in the potential for Swedish biomass to reduce total CO₂ emission and oil use. Nevertheless, barriers exist that could hinder the large-scale diffusion of new or established biomass uses, thus focused efforts may be required to achieve in practice the potential benefits pointed to in this study. The scenarios and numerical analyses in this study could be refined to better characterise the detailed objectives of reducing CO₂ emissions and oil use; nevertheless, the overall results appear to be robust.

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Appendix

Data for the evaluation of biomass and fossil options are shown in Tables A1–A5.

Table A1
Efficiencies of electricity and heat production

	η_{el}	η_{heat}^a	Electricity use (% of output)
<i>Fossil systems</i>			
Small-scale oil boiler (1)	–	0.98	2
Small-scale gas boiler (1)	–	1.00	1
Resistance heat (2)	–	0.97	–
Electric boiler (2)	–	0.95	–
Medium-scale oil boiler (3)	–	0.90	0.4
Medium-scale gas boiler (1)	–	0.90	2
Industrial oil boiler (4)	–	0.87	–
Heat plant oil (1)	–	0.91	–
District heat-gas CHP (1)	0.45	0.45	–
District heat coal CHP (1)	0.32	0.54	–
Power plant oil (1)	0.42	–	–
Power plant coal (1)	0.42	–	–
<i>Biomass systems</i>			
Small-scale pellet boiler (1)	–	0.85	1.5
Heat pump (2)	–	3.27	–
District heat-BIG/CC CHP (2)	0.43	0.43	–
Medium-scale wood boiler (3)	–	0.85	0.5
Industrial wood boiler (1,4)	–	0.85	0.4
Peak load plant-wood powder (5)	–	0.87	5
BIG/CC power (2)	0.47	–	–

(1) UBA (2006), (2) Gustavsson and Karlsson (2002), (3) STEM (2002b), (4) Ådahl (2004), (5) Harvey (2006).

^aFor heat plants and CHP plants, η_{heat} refers to heat delivered to the grid. Additionally, distribution losses of 14% are accounted for in the calculations.

Table A2
Cost data on electricity and heat production

	Investment costs (€/kW)	Full-load (h/year)	Operation costs (€/GJ)	Scale (MW)
<i>Fossil systems</i>				
Small-scale oil boiler (1)	600	2500	2.78	0.01
Small-scale gas boiler (1)	690	2500	2.67	0.01
Resistance heat (2)	795	2500	0.00	0.006
Electric boiler (2)	456	2500	0.00	0.006
Medium-scale oil boiler (3)	114	2500	0.95	1
Medium-scale gas boiler (1)	153	2500	0.57	1
Industrial oil boiler (pulp mill) (4)	185	8000	0.35	25
Heat plant-oil (1)	153	2500	0.34	100
CHP plant-gas (1)	562	6300	0.67	100
CHP plant-coal (1)	641	6300	1.01	167
Power plant-oil (1)	858	7000	0.85	450
Power plant-coal (1)	870	7000	0.61	500
<i>Biomass systems</i>				
Small-scale pellet boiler (2,5)	500	2500	0.88	0.02
Heat pump (2,5)	740	2500	0	0.015
District heat-BIG/CC CHP (2)	1750	6300	3.45	60
Medium-scale wood boiler (3)	270	2500	2.21	0.5
Industrial wood boiler (pulp mill) (4)	407	8000	1.47	25
Peak load plant-wood powder (4)	139 ^a	2500	0 ^b	100
Power plant-BIG/CC (2)	1230	7000	2.42	100

(1) UBA (2006), (2) Gustavsson and Karlsson (2002), (3) STEM (2002b), (4) Harvey (2006), (5) Gustavsson and Joelsson (2007).

^aRetrofitting cost from a fossil system to a biomass system.

^bWe assume the same operation and maintenance cost for fossil and biomass systems, as no data were available.

Table A3
Efficiencies and cost data of biofuel production

Fuel	η_{fuel}	Electricity use (GJ _{el} /GJ _{fuel})	End-use efficiency (km _{bio} /km _{fossil})	Investment costs (€/kW)	Full load (h/year)	Operation costs (€/GJ)
Ethanol (1)	0.38	0.05	1.16 ^a	2350	8000	5.23
Methanol (1)	0.62	−0.05	1.12 ^a	1150	8000	1.60
DME (2)	0.63	−0.07	1.00 ^b	1465	8000	4.34
FT-diesel (1)	0.48	0.03	1.00 ^b	1875	8000	2.87

(1) Hamelinck and Faaij (2006), (2) Bio-DME Consortium (2002).

^aFossil fuel refers to gasoline. The data represent intermediate values from the literature.

^bFossil fuel refers to diesel.

Table A4
Primary energy use (GJ) for production of materials for wood and concrete versions of wood- and concrete-framed versions of multi-storey apartment building, broken down by end-use energy carrier

	Final-use	Conversion/distribution	Fuel cycle	Total
Wood-frame				2730
Electricity	320	498	98	920
Coal	367	0	44	410
Oil	831	0	25	860
Natural gas	61	0	1	60
Biofuel	490	0	0	490
Concrete-frame				3410
Electricity	366	567	112	1050
Coal	729	0	87	820
Oil	1019	0	31	1050
Natural gas	96	0	1	100
Biofuel	398	0	0	400

Gustavsson et al. (2006b).

Table A5
Key parameters for model mills with black liquor gasification and the reference mill

Parameter	Unit	Reference ^b	BLG CC ^c	BLG MeOH ^b	BLG DME ^d
Black liquor produced	GJ/ADt pulp	21.8	21.8	21.8	21.8
Biomass residues produced ^a	GJ/ADt pulp	4.28	4.28	4.28	4.28
Biomass boiler fuel	GJ/ADt pulp	2.63	6.28	14.4	14.0
Lime kiln fuel	GJ/ADt pulp	1.56	2.09	2.09	2.09
Biomass export ^a	GJ/ADt pulp	0.09	−4.09	−12.2	−11.8
Electricity export	GJ/ADt pulp	−1.3	2.07	−3.92	−3.86
Methanol/DME export	GJ/ADt pulp	0	0	12.1	12.2
Incremental investment	Eur/(ADt/year)	—	100	235	235
Incremental O&M, excluding energy	Eur/ADt	—	3.96	10.8	10.8

Values are given per air-dry tonne (ADt) of pulp produced

^aIncluding tall oil.

^bBerglin et al. (2003).

^cBerglin et al. (2003), cost data from STFI (2003).

^dEstimated for DME from Berglin et al. (2003).

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